

GOSPEL HINDRANCES.

Which are the Greater Hindrances to the Spread of the Gospel—Professing Christians or Men of the World? A Sermon Delivered by Rev. John Chambers, Yesterday Afternoon, in the Presbyterian Church, Broad Street, Below Chestnut.

Those who profess to be followers of Christ, the professed followers, and the follower of Christ. The follower of Christ does this. But then there are so many who profess to follow Christ that do the very opposite. They are just like the professed and the follower of Christ. They are just like the professed and the follower of Christ.

Where are the followers of Christ? What are they doing? You cannot go into a place of amusement, perhaps, in this our Christian country, that you do not find large numbers of professed and the follower of Christ. They are just like the professed and the follower of Christ.

The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ has also, since the days of the Apostles, maintained her position in part. For the first century it was wonderfully perfect. But of late years, you may say what you please, Christianity has not, nor is not making the progress she ought.

Elevate them in every point of view. Bring them up from their degradation and sin, and bring them into fellowship with the Father, and with His Son, Jesus Christ.

My brethren, you will never be aroused to activity until you see where you actually are, and the dangers that surround you. We may suppose that we are very safe and comfortable, and that there is no danger, but the rumblings of an earthquake are beneath our feet.

The power of deliverance from the dominion of sin is wanted in the Church, and not in the world. By the Church, I suppose you all understand my meaning. I mean the believers everywhere who profess to take the Bible and live by it. That is what I understand as the Church, the Church about which people talk.

It is a notorious fact that Christians are a little while engaged in this, and a little while in that. They fail to hand in their contributions, and after a little while they go out, and you hear no more of, or know anything about them.

Look at it yourselves, and then think it no wonder that half the time of men and women is spent in reading that which is no manner of form of importance to them, and the other half taken up with the vain and the trifling of the world. It is my marvel, then, that Christianity does not make progress? One of the most formidable obstacles to the rapid spread of the Gospel is the worldliness of the professing Christians.

The members of the Church are becoming as proud as Lucifer. I intimated to you this morning that in many of our churches the pews in the gallery are not let. The people are too proud to go up there, and don't say this in the fact, but this is the statement. Look at the enormous expenditures of money for magnificent places of worship. Take that extra, unnecessary money from the Church, and pay the members, for they are the hardest worked men in the world.

Let the father become enraged at profane language, or if he indulged in intoxicating liquors, it will have a detrimental influence upon his children. The grand object and aim of the Christian's life, our Saviour informs us, is in

connection with this world, mark you, is this—Let your light, your example, your influence shine before you that they may see your good works; not evil deeds, nor evil words, nor evil conduct, nor impure words or conduct, but that which may see your good works. Who are to do this?

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